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ONTARIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Lower School Course

IN

British History

A topical outline of the Course with specific references to the prescribed Text-Book and to other books recommended for the school library

1932

ONTARIO

ISSUED BY AUTHORITY OF
THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Introduction

Pupils in the first year of the Lower School are required under the Courses of Study to make an outline study of British History to 1920, "with greater emphasis on the period after the accession of Elizabeth."

Many teachers experience difficulty in covering the prescribed course with the authorized text-book as their only guide. The question of the amount of detail that should be studied, especially in the earlier chapters, has been a source of perplexity, with the result that not infrequently the period following the accession of Elizabeth has received less attention than it merits.

With a view to assisting the teacher of History this syllabus has been prepared which not only indicates the important topics that should be taken up but also, in connection with each topic, gives references to definite pages of the text-book as well as to other books that are suggested for the school library for the use of the pupils.

This syllabus is not intended to be exhaustive; there will still be abundant opportunity for the teacher to exercise his own judgment, his powers of discrimination and his initiative. The teacher who has developed special methods of covering the course is free to follow those methods in preference to the syllabus.

The recent tendency in historical study is to give less attention to the military aspect of history and more to the social and economic aspect. In dealing with wars, especially in so extensive a course, and with young pupils, only outstanding leaders and battles should be noted.

Unless the teacher has a well-defined method of covering the course he should endeavour to organize the material under the topics suggested in the syllabus *but at the same time exercise due care less the syllabus lead to the vicious practice of dictating notes.*

Two lists of books of reference are appended. The first is intended for class-work and supplementary reading for the pupils; the second for the more detailed study and wider reading that the teachers may wish to do.

While definite pages in the *reference books for class-work* are given in connection with the topics, it is not intended that the reading shall be restricted to these pages; nor is it obligatory for every school to have all these books. However, as they are not expensive, it would be desirable for schools to have a few copies of each book for the use of the pupils.

LOWER SCHOOL COURSE IN BRITISH HISTORY

Part I.

1. The Roman occupation of Britain and its significance.

Text—pp. 1-7; pp. 10-11; pp. 12-14.

Additional Reading { Guest—pp. 5-12; Piers Plowman—Vol. 4, pp. 38-45.

2. Saxon England.

Text—p. 15; p. 17—*"The vigorous and hardy new-comers"*—the foot of p. 19.

Additional Reading { Finnemore—pp. 13-29; Guest—pp. 13-20; Piers Plowman—Vol. 4, pp. 46-54; Then and Now (Life in England, Vol. 13), pp. 1-13.

3. The introduction of Christianity and the organization of the Church—relation of Church and State up to 1485.

Text—pp. 20-26; 42; 52; 54-55; 57; 63-66; 68; 70-71; 74-76; 78; 84-86; 110-111.

Additional Reading { Finnemore—pp. 22-25; Guest—pp. 42-44; Piers Plowman—pp. 55-59.

4. The coming of the Danes—Alfred the Great.

Text—pp. 26-34.

5. The Norman Conquest and its effects upon England.

Text—A brief reference to the Battle of Hastings as contained in pp. 41-46; Feudal System—pp. 50-51.

Additional Reading { Burrows—pp. 17-35; Finnemore—pp. 42-46; Guest—pp. 39-41; " —pp. 53-60; Then and Now (Life in England, Vol. 13), pp. 13-31.

6. Early English expansion—the conquest of Wales—the attempted conquest of Scotland and a brief reference to the efforts made by English kings to hold French territory.

Text—p. 63, (one paragraph on effort to hold France); pp. 65-66; pp. 80-81; pp. 86-90, (conquest of Wales); pp. 95-98, (attempt to conquer Scotland; a brief reference to the Hundred Years' War (special reference to Crecy); p. 166 (Calais).

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7. **The development of government from early times to 1485.**
Text—p. 19; p. 52; p. 67; pp. 75-78; pp. 81-82; pp. 91-92; pp. 120-121.
Additional Reading { Guest—pp. 21-24; pp. 39-42.

8. **The administration of justice prior to 1485.**
Text—p. 17-18; p. 32; p. 52; p. 67; p. 70; pp. 77-78; p. 113.
Additional Reading { Guest—pp. 24-28;
Then and Now—pp. 12-13; 42-43.

9. **The significance of the Wars of the Roses—in relation to the life of the people and the power of the king—(brief discussion with class.)**
Text—p. 138.

10. **Social and economic progress in the Middle Ages (towns, guilds, Black Death, Peasant Revolt.)**
Text—General.
Additional Reading {
Burrows—pp. 36-51; 68-87;
Finnemore—pp. 69-86;
Guest—pp. 63-93;
Piers Plowman—Vol. IV, pp. 130-151;
Then and Now—pp. 31-50.

11. **A brief study of religious changes in the Tudor period.**
Text—pp. 150-174; 179.

12. **The relation of sovereign and parliament in the Tudor period.**
Text—General.

Part II.

1. **Elizabethan seamanship and its results, including the development of trade and commerce.**
Text—General.
Additional Reading {
Burrows—pp. 127-139;
Finnemore—pp. 117-119;
Guest—pp. 109-123;
Piers Plowman—Vol. V, pp. 56-66.

2. **Social life of the Elizabethan period.**
Text—pp. 181-183.
Additional Reading {
Burrows—Part II;
Finnemore—pp. 119-133;
Guest—pp. 139-147;
Piers Plowman—Vol. V, pp. 14-25; 46-66; 67-73;
Then and Now—pp. 50-70.

3. The development of English literature to the end of Elizabeth's reign.

Text—pp. 25-26; 30; 110-111; 117-118; 183-184.

Additional Reading { Finnemore—pp. 30-33; 65-69;
Guest—pp. 147-148;
Piers Plowman—Vol. IV, pp. 187-193.

4. The Puritan Movement.

Text—pp. 179-180; 187; 195.

Additional Reading { Finnemore—pp. 147-153;
Piers Plowman, Vol. V, pp. 67-72; 102-111;
Then and Now—pp. 70-99.

5. A brief treatment of the struggle between parliament and the Stuart kings.

Text—A brief outline of Chapter IX.

6. Royal power and the growth of democracy from 1689.

Text—Bill of Rights—pp. 243-244;
—Party System—pp. 251-252; 262-265;
—Prime Minister and Cabinet—pp. 270-274.

7. The development of the British Empire to 1783.

Text—Gains of War of Spanish Succession—pp. 253-254;
—Union of England and Scotland—pp. 260-262;
—Gains of Seven Years' War—pp. 278-283;
—Loss of American Colonies—pp. 292-297.

8. Agricultural and industrial revolutions and their effect upon the life of the people.

Text—pp. 325-326.

Additional Reading { Burrows—pp. 159-183;
Finnemore—pp. 170-176;
Guest—{Agricultural Revolution, pp. 190-195;
—{Industrial Revolution, pp. 172-190; 195-204;
Piers Plowman, Vol. V, Part IV, pp. 159-219.

9. Religious Revival (Wesley) and its results.

Text—pp. 283-287.

10. Britain's part in the French Revolution and in the Napoleonic Wars; the resultant reactions.

Text (briefly)—(*a*) pp. 303-309;
—(*b*) pp. 313-322;
—(*c*) pp. 323-329.

11. **Great political and social reforms after 1830.**
    —The reform bills and their results, pp. 329-331, 350, 357;
    —Parliament Act of 1911, p. 366;
    —Social legislation—abolition of slavery, Factory Acts, Poor Laws, Criminal Laws.

    Text—General.

    Additional Reading { Burrows—pp. 178-186;
    Finnemore—pp. 254-265;
    Guest—pp. 195-237;
    Piers Plowman—Vol. VII, pp. 223-233; 241-248;
    Then and Now—pp. 99-112.

12. **The Victorian era,—general characteristics; transportation and communication; the free trade movement—leading men and their policies, Peel, Palmerston, Disraeli, Gladstone, Lloyd George.**

    Text—Chapter XVII.

    Additional Reading { Burrows—pp. 186-205;
    Finnemore—pp. 228-231;
    Piers Plowman, Vol. V, pp. 219-255.

13. **The Great War—causes and a very brief outline of the events; results.**

    Text—pp. 364-372.

    Additional Reading { Guest—pp. 273-284.

14. **The League of Nations.**

    Text—pp. 372-373.

    Additional Reading { Guest—pp. 285-288.

15. **The British Empire (1763-1920), with special reference to Ireland, India, Egypt, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand and Canada.**

    General—Text—Chapter 19;
    —Guest—pp. 267-273;
    —Piers Plowman, Vol. VII, Chapter 30.

    Special —Text (see Index), also
    —Guest for Ireland, Egypt and South Africa.

Books of Reference for Pupils

1. Burrows—The Story of English Industry and Trade—*The Macmillan Company of Canada, Limited.*
2. Finnemore—Social Life in England—*The Macmillan Company of Canada, Limited.*
3. Guest—A Social History of England—*Clarke, Irwin & Company, Limited.*

4. Piers Plowman Histories (Junior), Volumes IV, V, VI, VII— *E. N. Moyer Company, Limited.*
5. Then and Now Stories (Life in England, Volume XIII)—*The Macmillan Company of Canada, Limited.*

BOOKS OF REFERENCE FOR TEACHERS

1. Cheyney—An Introduction to the Industrial and Social History of England—*The Macmillan Company of Canada, Limited.*
2. Miller—The Beginner's History of England—*Clarke, Irwin & Company, Limited.*
3. Mowat, R. B.—A History of Great Britain—*The Oxford University Press.*
4. Ross—Victorian England—*Clarke, Irwin & Company, Limited.*
5. Strachey, Lytton—Queen Victoria—*Chatto.*
6. Strachey, Lytton—Eminent Victorians—*Doubleday, Doran & Gundy.*
7. Trevelyan—History of England in the Nineteenth Century—*Longmans, Green & Company.*
8. Trevelyan—History of England—*Longmans, Green & Company.*
9. Warner and Martin—Ground work in British History.
10. Hunt—Growth and Development of the English Town—*Clarke, Irwin & Company, Limited.*
11. Stuart—Men and Women of Plantagenet England—*Clarke, Irwin & Company, Limited.*